



FACT SHEET

Running for President of the United States of America 2012 Election

(This information will only get you on the North Carolina Ballot. You will need to contact the 49 other states for information on how to get on their primary and general election ballot.)

1.) When are the elections? (*§163-1, 213.2*)

- Presidential Preference Primary - The Tuesday after the first Monday in May preceding the Presidential election. **Tuesday, May 8, 2012.**
- Election - The Tuesday after the first Monday in November. **Tuesday, November 6, 2012.**

2.) What are the qualifications for President of the U.S.? (*U.S. Const. Art. II Sec. 1*)

- An individual must be a natural born citizen of the U.S., 35 years of age, and a resident of the U.S. for 14 years.
- Term - *President* (4 years)

3.) How can a candidate be placed on the ballot for the presidential primary election?

“§ 163-213.4. Nomination by the State Board of Elections

By the first Tuesday (**February 7, 2012**) in February of the year preceding the North Carolina presidential preference primary, the chair of each political party shall submit to the State Board of Elections a list of its presidential candidates to be placed on presidential preference primary ballot. The list must be comprised of candidates whose candidacy is generally advocated and recognized in the news media throughout the United States or in North Carolina, unless any such candidate executes and files with the chair of the political party an affidavit stating without qualification that the candidate is not and does not intend to become a candidate for nomination in the North Carolina Presidential Preference Primary Election.

The State Board of Elections shall prepare and publish a list of the names of the presidential candidates submitted.

On the first Tuesday in March preceding the presidential preference primary (**March 6, 2012**) the State Board of Elections (SBE) will convene in Raleigh to nominate all candidates affiliated with a recognized political party pursuant to the provisions of Article 9 of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes, who have been submitted to the State Board of Elections. Immediately upon completion of these requirements, the board shall release to the news media all such nominees selected. Provided, however, nothing shall prohibit the partial selection of nominees prior to the meeting required by this section, if all provisions herein have been complied with.

Or

Nomination by Petition (*GS 163-213.5*)

Any person seeking the endorsement by a national political party, may file with the SBE petitions signed by 10,000 qualified voters who are affiliated with the same political party as the candidate for whom the petitions are filed. Petitions must be filed with the county board of elections for verification (CBE) by **February 24, 2012**. The signatures on the petitions must be verified by the appropriate CBE and then filed at the SBE by the candidate no later than 5:00 PM on the Monday (**March 5, 2012**) one day prior to the Tuesday (**March 6, 2012**) the SBE is required to meet pursuant to GS 163-213.4 preceding the presidential preference primary.

The SBE will notify each person that qualifies in writing that his/her name will be printed on the ballot.

4.) How are unaffiliated candidates nominated? (*§163-1, §163-122, 163-209*)

A candidate who seeks to have his/her name printed on the general election ballot as an unaffiliated candidate for President shall file a petition with the SBE by 12:00 Noon on the last Friday in June preceding the general election, **Friday, June 29, 2012**. This petition must be signed by 2% of the total number of voters who voted in the most recent general election for Governor (85,379). No later than 5:00 p.m. on the fifteenth day (**June 14, 2012**) preceding the date petitions are due to be filed with the SBE, each petition shall be presented to the chairman of the CBE in which the signatures were gathered and verification by the chairman shall be completed within two weeks from the date the petitions are presented.

A Presidential candidate who has qualified to have his/her name printed on the ballot as an unaffiliated candidate will nominate presidential electors. There must be one elector from each congressional district and two from the State at-large. He or she must file this list of electors with the Secretary of State no later than 12:00 Noon on the first Friday in August - **Friday, August 3, 2012**. He or she must file the name of the vice-presidential candidate with the State Board of Elections no later than 12:00 Noon on the first Friday in August - **Friday, August 3, 2012**.

5.) How can an individual become a write-in candidate for President in 2012?
(§163-123)

An individual seeking to become a write-in candidate in the North Carolina Presidential Election on November 6, 2012 must file with the SBE a declaration of intent (containing the following: name, residential address, declaration of intent, office sought, date of election, date of declaration, signature), a petition request and petitions containing the verified signatures of 500 qualified voters of the State by noon on the 90th day before the general election - **Friday, August 17, 2012**. Verification of signatures is performed by the county board of elections and shall be completed within two weeks from the date the petitions are presented to the county board. Only submit names of voters in a particular county to that county board of elections for verification. After verification, the petitions are returned by the county board to the candidate to be filed with the SBE before the **August 17, 2012** deadline. If the write-in candidate has complied with GS 163-123 and has timely submitted the required number of verified names, the candidate will be certified as a write-in candidate by the SBE. This means that votes cast in the general election for the certified write-in candidate for the office of President will be counted.

6.) What are the Campaign Reporting requirements? (§163-278.30)

If you plan to be a 2012 candidate for President, you or your campaign treasurer, need to contact the Federal Election Commission for filing requirements. Their Toll Free Number is 1-800-424-9530. As a candidate for federal office, you are responsible to comply with the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, P.L. 92-225, as amended (Title 2, U.S.C. Section 439).